

AMMONITES PERARMATUS J. SOWERBY, 1822 (CEPHALOPODA,  
AMMONOIDEA); PROPOSED EXEMPTION FROM THE  
PRINCIPLE OF HOMONYMY. Z.N.(S.)2479

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The purpose of this application is to ask the Commission to use its plenary powers to safeguard the Upper Jurassic ammonite name *Ammonites perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1822, against being rendered invalid under the principle of homonymy by the prior use of *Ammonites perarmatus* Young & Bird, 1822, for a Lower Jurassic ammonite. *A. perarmatus* J. Sowerby is also the type species of the genus *Euaspidoceras* Spath, 1931, and it is advisable to retain the current interpretation of that genus without altering the type species.

2. *Ammonites perarmatus* Young & Bird, 1822 (p. 249, pl. 14, fig. 11) was first described in the first edition of *A Geological Survey of the Yorkshire Coast*, for which the exact date of publication has only recently been discovered (Howarth, 1978, p. 262). That book was listed in the 1 June 1822 issue of the *Monthly Magazine* (London, vol. 53, no. 368, p. 446) in a review of books published during May 1822; also Rev. G. Young said that his book was 'just published' during a lecture on the Kirkdale Cave that he delivered to the Wernerian Natural History Society of Edinburgh on 4 May 1822 (*Mem. Wernerian Soc.*, vol. 4, p. 262). These suggest that the date of publication of Young & Bird's book was 1, 2 or 3 May 1822.

3. *Ammonites perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1822 (p. 72, pl. 352) was first published in volume 4, part 61, of the *Mineral Conchology of Great Britain*, for which part the generally accepted data of publication is 1 June 1822 (Cleevely, 1974, p. 443). Young & Bird's specific name was published first, and J. Sowerby's name is, therefore, a junior primary homonym.

4. *Ammonites perarmatus* Young & Bird, 1822, is currently accepted as a coarsely ribbed and tuberculate species of the Lower Toarcian genus *Peronoceras*, and the holotype is extant (Howarth, 1978, p. 263, pl. 5, figs. 1-4).

5. *Ammonites perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1822, is the type species by original designation of the Callovian to Oxfordian ammonite genus *Euaspidoceras* Spath (1931, pp. 326, 588), a well-known member of the family Aspidoceratidae. That species and its holotype were described by Arkell (1940, p. 193, pl. 41, fig. 1), and the genus has been widely used as an Upper Jurassic ammonite during the last 50 years, especially in the important descriptions and compilative works by Arkell (1936, 1940, 1956, 1957), Roman (1938), Basse (1952), Orlov (1958), Collignon (1959), Andjelkovic

(1961) and Wierzbowski (1975). *Peronoceras perarmatum* (Young & Bird) and *Euaspidoceras perarmatum* (J. Sowerby) belong to two different ammonite superfamilies (Eoderocerataceae and Perisphinctaceae respectively) that are so far apart that confusion between them is not a possibility.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to declare that *Ammonites perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1 June 1822, is not rendered invalid by the prior use of *Ammonites perarmatus* Young & Bird, 1–3 May 1822.
- (2) to place the specific name *perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1822, as published in the binomen *Ammonites perarmatus*, and as validated under the plenary powers in (1) above, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) to place the generic name *Euaspidoceras* Spath, 1931 (type species *Ammonites perarmatus* J. Sowerby, 1822, by original designation of Spath (1931, p. 588)) on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.

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